Election Reform Update Changes made in the House State Government Committee

SB 5499 – Omnibus election reform bill



Bad Changes

- Removes the requirement that poll voters show registration card or photo ID
- © Removes Sec. State review of county election procedures every three years
- © Removes random investigation of voter rolls ("VVV Techs") (Roach Amendment)
- ® Removes moving the candidate filing date to fourth Monday in June (Schoesler Amendment)
- Removes the counting of military ballots after certification if commanding officer attests that the ballot was received late (Roach Amendment)
- Removes ban on third party "vote shopping" – collection of signatures or affidavits to cure ballot problems
- © Requires that ballots be counted if the name on the signature is different, but the "handwriting" matches
- © Removes the ban on ballot enhancements
 - Downgrades vote fraud crimes to misdemeanors

Good Changes

- © Keeps Sen.

 Mulliken's amendment

 provisional ballots

 must be a different color

 or bar coded
- © Keeps Sen. Roach's amendment security flap on absentee ballots



SB 5499 – Omnibus election reform bill (continued)

Bad Changes

- © Requires that counties with 75,000+ population canvass absentee ballots and poll site votes every day
- © Requires that counties with less than 75,000 population canvass absentee ballots and poll site votes every third day
- © Removes prohibition on crediting voters with voting if absentee ballot was not counted
- Moves requirement that DMV ask applicants if they are at least 18 at the time of voting and a citizen to SB 5743 (Roach Amendment)



Good Changes

No more!



HAVA clean up bill

Bad Changes

- ⊗ Civil right to vote is automatically returned to persons convicted of a felony after completion of their sentence
- © Removes requirement that Sec. of State check citizenship status with **INS**
- ⊗ Removes HAVA requirement that if the Sec. of State can't match info in DOL or Social Security Administration to voter application, a copy of a utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or other government check can prove name and address
- ⊗ Allows voter registration to be considered complete even if the applicant does not have a state ID card, a driver's license number or a social security number (Reverses HAVA, allowing anyone to register)
 - investigation of individual voters to quarterly review of entire database
- ⊗ Allows a person's date of birth that is included in voter registration to be made available for public inspection and copying (Empowering ID thieves even more!)

Good Changes

- © Enhances Sen. Roach's amendment by adding overseas voter to armed forces check box
- © Requires persons convicted of felony to sign a statement that they understand they are losing their voting rights
- © Enhances Sen. Roach's amendment by requiring all state agencies assisting in voter registration to ask the applicants if they will be at least 18 at the time of voting and whether they are a citizen
- © Keeps Sen. Roach's amendment that requires the DMV to ask the above two questions and not register them if they answer "no"